



## What is an IPUOCR?

- **IPU** – Instream Protected Uses listed in RSA 483:9-c,I
- **OC** – Outstanding Characteristics listed in RSA 483:1
- **R** – Resources listed in RSA 483:6,IV,(a)
- Designated Uses under the Clean Water Act cited in NHDES CALM
- Put it all together and get **IPUOCR**

## Process for IPUOCR development

- Research documents to identify IPUOCRs
  - The consultant will research applicable files, records and studies, and may need to conduct structured interviews with local watershed authorities to develop information about the specific IPUOCR entities, their river location, and their dependence on river flow conditions.
  - The consultant will present an annotated list of the IPUOCR entities to both advisory committees for their review and comment. The list will identify and briefly describe the IPUOCR entities, and if known, their location within the DR.
- On-stream survey for IPUOCRs
- The consultant will document this information completely in a draft IPUOCR report.

## Instream Public Uses

- *Env-W's 1905.02 Protected **Instream Flow Study**. The protected instream flow study shall: . . . (c) For each segment, identify and catalog all instream public uses on the designated river listed under RSA 483:9-c.I*
- include the state's interests in surface waters, including, but not limited to, navigation; recreation; fishing; storage; conservation; maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life; fish and wildlife habitat; wildlife; the protection of water quality and public health; pollution abatement; aesthetic beauty; and hydroelectric energy production

## Outstanding Characteristics

- *Env-W's 1905.02 Protected **Instream Flow Study**. The protected instream flow study shall: . . . (b) For each segment, identify and catalog outstanding characteristics listed under RSA 483:1*
- including recreational, fisheries, wildlife, environmental, cultural, historical, archaeological, scientific, ecological, aesthetic, community significance, agricultural, and public water supply so that these valued characteristics shall endure as part of the river uses to be enjoyed by New Hampshire people

## Resources

- *Env-W's 1905.02 Protected **Instream Flow Study**. The protected instream flow study shall: . . . (d) For each segment, identify and catalog all resources for which the river or segment is designated pursuant to RSA 483:6 IV a*
- Whether the river, or segment or segments of such river, contain or represent either a significant statewide or local example of one or more of the following: (1) Scenic or recreational resource. (2) Open space or natural resource. (3) Fisheries, wildlife, vegetation, and rare species or habitat. (4) Cultural, historical, or archaeological resource. (5) Hydrological or geological resource. (6) Water quality. (7) Scientific resource. (8) Community resource. (9) Current and projected withdrawals, discharges, or both, by public utilities and commercial or industrial users.

### Designated Uses under the federal Clean Water Act

- Aquatic Life
- Fish Consumption
- Shellfish Consumption
- Drinking Water Supply
- Primary Contact Recreation (i.e. swimming)
- Secondary Contact Recreation
- Wildlife

### IPUOCR Definitions

- IPUOCR Definitions document is on the website.
- Some IPUOCRs were defined from Nomination Guidance.
- Designated Uses were defined from the NHDES Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology.
- Remaining were defined by the WMB.

### Historical resource or Archaeological or Historical

- Flow-dependent issues are unlikely.
- ??? Department should change this interpretation???

### Souhegan-specific information



### Preliminary IPUOCR List

NH DES has compiled a preliminary list of IPUOCR entities for the Souhegan River DR available under the Souhegan page at the Protected Instream Flow link or by typing

<http://www.des.state.nh.us/rivers/instream/pdf/SouheganIPUOCRlist.pdf>.

### Sources

- Souhegan River Nomination - May 1999
- NH OSP statewide recreation inventory 1998
- Souhegan River Watershed Report NHDES May 1997
- WMPA town officials
- Natural Heritage Bureau (DRED)
- NH Archaeological Inventory; NH Div. of Historical Resources, State Archeologist Robert Boisvert
- USGS (Report Number 91-4177)
- NHDES Watershed Management Bureau (Designated Uses

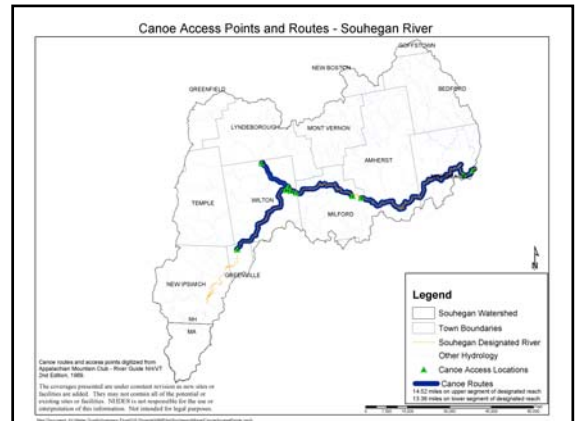


## Navigation

- Navigation means use of the river for non-recreational, transportation purposes.

## Recreation or Recreational Resource

- Recreational use or resource means use of the river for swimming, boating or significant shoreland recreation, including, but not limited to, hiking, camping, picnicking, and bird watching.



## Fish habitat

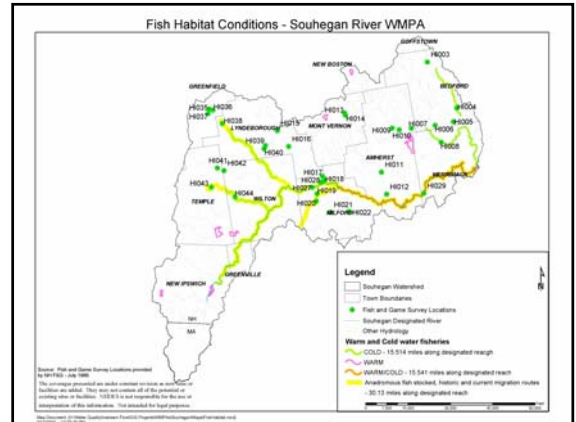
- Fish habitat means regions which are important to the survival of fish populations. Such regions include, but are not limited to, aquatic life spawning beds and feeding areas, freshwater wetlands or riparian habitat, and saltwater wetlands associated with estuarine systems.

## Fishing or Fisheries

- Fishing and Fisheries means recreational and commercial uses of the river for fishing identified by the presence of fish that are caught for recreation or commercial use.

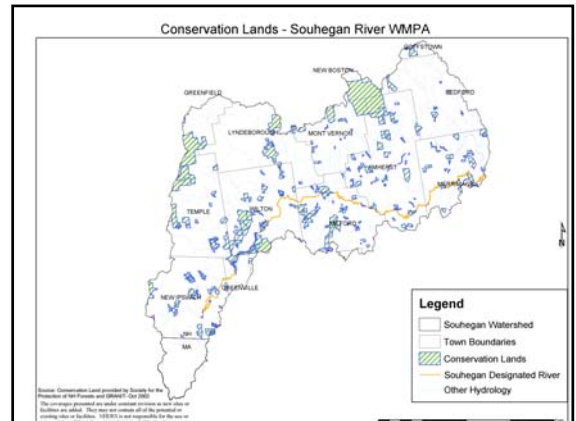
## Maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life

- Maintenance and enhancement of aquatic and fish life means the web of aquatic species that make up a balanced, integrated, and adaptive community of organisms having a species composition, diversity, and functional organization comparable to that of similar natural habitats of a region.



## Open space resource

- Open space means flow-dependent, characteristics of open space including, but not be limited to, national forest lands, state parks and forests, municipal parks, and conservation easements. There may be little or no flow-related issues concerning maintenance of open space.



## Natural resource

- Natural resource means geologic, wildlife, endangered or threatened animals, wildlife habitat, wildlife travel corridor, vegetation/natural communities, fish resources, aquatic habitat for fish populations, a fishery that relies on natural reproduction or a stocking program, anadromous fish or a restoration effort, Class A waters or water quality equal to Class A or a Class B water or water quality equal to Class B, open space, natural flow characteristics. This category should only be invoked where the resource does not fit into another category.

## Wildlife or Wildlife habitat

- Wildlife for this purpose shall mean species that rely on flow and flow to regions, including, but are not limited to, waterfowl breeding or wintering areas, freshwater wetlands or riparian habitat, and saltwater wetlands associated with estuarine systems.
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### Vegetation

- Vegetation means native, flow-dependent species

### Rare species or habitat

- Rare species are identified by lists of plants and animals or fish available from NHI and by the nomination papers. Rare habitats are habitats that support rare species or are rare ecosystems.

### Ecological

- Ecology is a natural ecological community as determined by the NH Natural Heritage Inventory.

### NH Natural Heritage Bureau Known occurrences of rare species and exemplary natural communities in the Souhegan watershed, NH

- Invertebrate Species (5)
- Natural Community (10)
- Plant species (10)
- Vertebrate species (9)

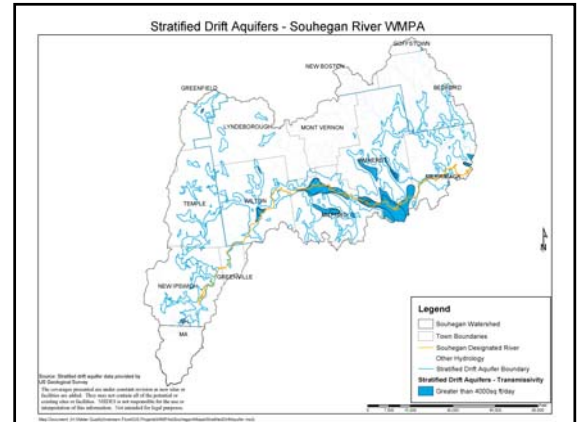
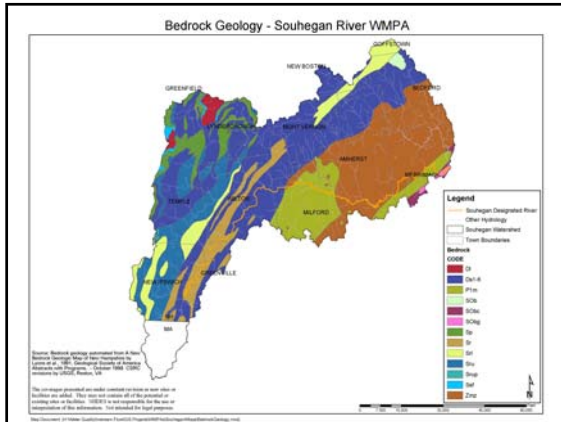
### Cultural or Cultural resource

- Cultural resources or characteristics mean on-going river corridor management planning effort or other local efforts to protect or manage the river, the existence of a riverside park or other public area, or community support for riverfront revitalization as demonstrated by acts such as the filing of a petition, establishment of a municipal committee or citizen group, or fundraising activities.

### Community significance or Community resource

- Community river resource means a natural, managed, cultural, or recreational resource or use thereof associated with a river that is recognized by local residents or a municipal document accepted by the municipality, such as a master plan or a water resource management plan, as being important to a community adjacent to a river. "Recognized by local residents" for the purposes of this definition means that there are community projects, activities or events based on the river or its corridor such as river clean-ups, canoe races, or a riverfest. Community significance shall not include hydroelectric power generation.





## Hydrological resource

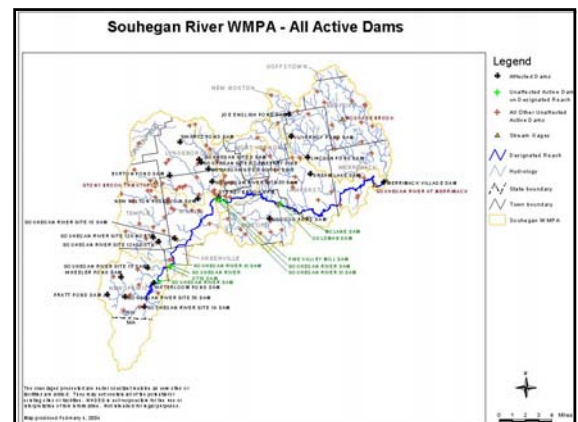
- Hydrologic resource means natural flow characteristics meaning the river is free-flowing, such that the river is 100 percent free-flowing with no man-made dams, diversions, or other modifications which affect the river's natural flow or the river is largely free-flowing without characteristics of impoundment excluding low dams, diversion works and other minor modifications.

## Storage

- Storage means the natural or man-made attributes of a river for water storage. Only Community Rivers are subject to new dam construction.

## Hydroelectric energy production

- Hydroelectric energy production is an existing hydroelectric facility on any classification of designated river, or a former hydroelectric facility site that has been unused for fewer than six years on a Rural or Rural-Community river. The description of potential site of hydroelectric facilities on Community rivers is beyond the scope of this project and should be clearly stated as such in the PISF report.



## Protection of water quality and public health

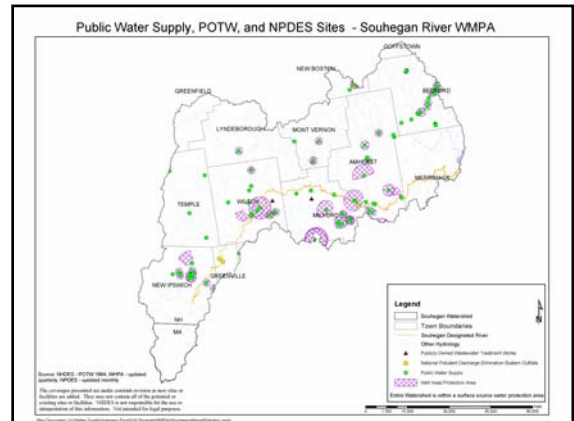
- Water quality and public health are the flow-dependent characteristics that maintain water quality of the river including, but not limited to and the maintenance of chemical and physical water quality parameters that support designated and existing uses. Identify water quality as Class A or Class B.

## Public water supply

- A public water supply is an existing source of public drinking water that meets the Department's description of a public water system as stated in Env-Ws 302.02 Definitions. "Public water system" means a "public water system" as defined in RSA 485:1-a,XV, namely "a system for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption, if such system has at least fifteen service connections or regularly serves an average of at least twenty-five individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year. The identification of all potential water supplies is beyond the scope of this project and should be clearly stated as such in the PISF report.

## Pollution abatement

- Pollution abatement includes wastewater treatment facilities or industrial treatment facilities and aspects of flow affecting assumptions of flow for dilution and dispersal of waste in mixing zones and the rivers overall capacity to mitigate natural and non-point source contamination.



## IPUOCR Plan

- WMPAAC collecting and mapping additional IPUOCR information
- Contractor hiring completed in May/June?
- Contractor to take all preliminary and WMPAAC information and use it in developing the IPUOCR list
- Committees review IPUOCR list → final

